

Walking to School

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Amy waits at a crosswalk with her walk-to-school children, Ava and Luke, at Camino Pablo Elementary School in Moraga.



Photos Chris Lavin

“People’s interests change,” Evans said. “Lots of people come from San Francisco because they have young families, or people come from the hills areas where they’re paying for private schools.”

Another agent, Michelle Holcenberg, agreed. “There are lots of reasons people move,” she said. “But yeah, many people are looking for good schools. It may not be necessarily whether the kids can walk to school, but they definitely want to be close to one,” she said.

Charlton, the dad in Moraga, likes nothing better than to watch his daughters head out the front door in the morning. “It’s a great neighborhood, a tight niche,” he said. “They’ll stop at their friends’ houses and pick them up, and go together. It’s a great tradition.”

He walked to school himself as a kid, but in an East Bay neighborhood that would not be as safe now. Sure, his daughters complain about having to walk. But someday, they will be telling their own kids that it was 10 miles uphill both ways, through pouring rain.

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